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Holiday Safety

The holiday season is upon us. Many needless accidents are caused each year due to negligence or the many distractions that come with the season. Here are some recommendations to help make it safe and enjoyable for everyone.

1. If you are using a natural tree:
 - a. Make sure that it is secured properly in the appropriate sized tree stand. Counter weight the base if necessary to help prevent the tree from tipping over.
 - b. Always keep the tree watered to prevent it from drying out. The needles should be soft and pliable. Dried out trees cause many fires and temperatures can be over 1500 degrees.
 - d. Do not place tree near any heat register or duct.
2. If you are using an artificial tree:
 - a. Make sure that it is secured properly in the appropriate sized tree stand. Counter weight the base if necessary to help prevent the tree from tipping over.
 - b. Verify that all sections of the tree, if applicable, are correct and secured per the manufactures instructions.
3. Electrical lighting and ornaments:
 - a. Only use UL approved lighting. There is usually a tag on the light string to verify.
 - b. Never overload the circuit. Review the manufacture's recommendations to help prevent overloading and shock prevention.
 - c. Never attach any electrical lighting, cords, ornaments etc. to a metal tree.
 - d. Do not use metal tinsel on or near any electrical lighting, cords, ornaments etc.
 - e. Check each lighting strand and cords for any wear, damaged lights open wires etc. Replace as needed.
 - f. Keep all electrical lighting, cords ornaments etc. away from water (tree stand).
 - g. Verify that any other electrical light, cord, ornament, free standing display etc. is not damaged and functions normally.
 - h. Keep small children and pets away from any electrical items.
4. If you are decorating outside:
 - a. Use only lighting and cords that are UL approved for outdoor usage.
 - b. Do not overload the circuit.
 - c. Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) receptacles or verified circuits for all outdoor lighting and displays.
 - d. Use extreme caution when using a ladder.
 - e. Never attach or move lights or displays that are energized

Let's all help by making the holiday season safe for everyone!

For additional information, or to schedule an inspection, please call Jeff@ (608) 434-0790.

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